

Madam Speaker, Larry Foster was a wonderful friend, a great advocate for Mt. Morris Township, and a revered figure in Mt. Morris for the past 30 years. He leaves a lasting legacy of breaking down barriers, and compassion for his fellow human beings. The mark he left on the community is a true blessing and he will be greatly missed.

#### TRIBUTE TO DANIEL PFANNES

#### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2007*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Daniel Pfannes, Chief of Police at the Westland Police Department, upon his retirement from a distinguished law enforcement career in Westland, Michigan.

For nearly five decades, Chief Pfannes dedicated his life to protecting the citizens of Michigan. Upon graduation from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Industrial Supervision and Management, Chief Pfannes joined the Westland Police Department as a Police Officer in the Uniform Patrol Division. Over the next 25 years, Chief Pfannes ascended through the Department's ranks, eventually serving as an Evidence Technician, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Special Investigations Lieutenant, SWAT Commander, and Deputy Chief of Police. In 1993, Chief Pfannes graduated from the Police School of Staff and Command at Eastern Michigan University and Northwestern University. One year later, in 1994, he earned a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Detroit. Then, in March of 2003 he was promoted to the Chief of Police of the City of Westland.

Today, Chief Pfannes is a leader in the city of Westland and Wayne County. He serves on the Executive Board of the Wayne County Chiefs of Police Association, the Wayne County Regional Police Academy Advisory Board, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Legislative Committee, and the Advisory Board of the Wayne County Representative to the Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information System (C.L.E.M.I.S.). He is also a Juvenile Justice instructor at Schoolcraft College and an assistant adjunct professor at Madonna University in Livonia where he teaches Criminal Justice.

For his tireless service to the community, Chief Pfannes has been recognized with the "Most Influential Instructor Award" by Schoolcraft Police Academy; and for his heroic efforts in combating crime, the Westland Police Department has honored him with numerous citations and commendations. The Wayne County Executive, Robert Ficano, also recognized Chief Pfannes for his efforts to secure \$23 million in federal Urban Area Security Initiative funding for Wayne County and the City of Detroit.

Madam Speaker, for 25 years, Chief Daniel Pfannes has unwaveringly protected and defended the citizens of Michigan. His long established legacy of dedication, loyalty, and courage will never be forgotten. As he enters the next phase of his life, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Pfannes upon his retirement and in honoring his years of legendary service to our community and our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, on Monday I took part in a meeting in Denver at which the Advisory Board on Radiation and Health considered questions related to a petition to include people who worked at the Rocky Flats site as part of the "special exposure cohort" under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

As a result, I was not able to be present for three votes in the House.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 448—H.R. 2356, to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on Father's Day—I would have voted "yes."

Rollcall No. 449—S. 676, to provide that the Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank or the Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank may serve on the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation—I would have voted "yes."

Rollcall No. 450—H. Res. 418, Recognizing and welcoming the delegation of Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers from the Caribbean to Washington, DC, and commending the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for holding the Conference on the Caribbean—I would have voted "yes."

#### HONORING GEORGE BUCCI

#### HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of George Bucci. Mr. Bucci, a noted musician and public servant in Bardstown, Kentucky, passed away on May 9, 2007.

Mr. Bucci retired from the St. Joseph's School, where he spent many years as a music instructor. He was well known throughout the community for his volunteer work at several area nursing homes and charity events. He also served 28 years as the Adjutant for the "My Old Kentucky Home" Post 121 of the American Legion.

His service to his country and dedication to the Nelson County community will be remembered by all who knew him. It is my privilege to honor the memory of George Bucci today before the entire U.S. House of Representatives. May he rest in peace.

#### RECOGNIZING PEOPLE INC. UPON RECEIVING THE CHEEKTOWAGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2007 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2007*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the accomplishments of People Inc., a nonprofit group that provides assistance to those with developmental dis-

abilities, low-income seniors, and the general public. These accomplishments have earned People Inc. the 2007 Community Service Award from the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

Since its foundation in 1971, People Inc. has worked selflessly towards its goal of providing individuals with disabling conditions, or other special needs, the tools they need to succeed in society. These tools include over 100 group homes, senior housing complexes, day programs, early intervention programs, young adult life transition programs, and a medical clinic. People Inc. has helped over 10,000 members of the community to make progress in their daily lives.

In addition to this honor from the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce, People Inc.'s outstanding efforts have been recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the National Best Practices Award.

People Inc. has given back to the western New York community not only through its tireless service towards aiding those in need, but also by employing almost 2,300 residents and has been ranked as number 22 out of the top 30 largest employers in western New York.

Not only has People Inc. provided western New York and beyond with direct assistance, it has also aided other nonprofit organizations with knowledge and resources in the hopes of spreading its fundamental goals even farther throughout the community.

I stand here today, Madam Speaker, to acknowledge the contributions of People Inc. to the community, and am certain that many others will recognize these outstanding contributions as well.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE COUNCIL ON AMERICAN-ISLAMIC RELATIONS

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 12, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to recognize the achievements of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, on the occasion of their Fifth Anniversary. Since its inception, CAIR has been instrumental in creating dialogue between the diverse communities of northeast Ohio.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build conditions that promote justice and mutual understanding. With the help of CAIR, the Tenth District of Ohio has become a more inclusive community and a more welcoming place for American Muslims. I thank every member of the organization for their time and dedication to improving the lives of the citizens of the Cleveland area.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the truly outstanding achievements of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. As our community continues to grow in its religious and cultural diversity, the work of CAIR is paramount if we are to thrive. May their efforts to create a more inclusive and peaceful world endure for years to come.